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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/660,141	09/11/2003	Sebastien Perrot	PF030065	4968
24498	7590	06/15/2005	EXAMINER	
THOMSON LICENSING INC. PATENT OPERATIONS PO BOX 5312 PRINCETON, NJ 08543-5312			ADDY, ANTHONY S	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2681	

DATE MAILED: 06/15/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

10/660,141

Applicant(s)

PERROT ET AL.

Examiner

Anthony S. Addy

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 11 September 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 11 September 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                   | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

## DETAILED ACTION

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1 and 3-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by **Baker et al., U.S. Patent Number 5,570,366 (hereinafter Baker)**.

Regarding claim 1, Baker teaches a device for connecting a wireless network to at least one other network comprising a bridge module for managing a plurality of ports for connecting to respective networks (see col. 1, lines 15-22, col. 3, lines 6-13, col. 5, lines 27-30 and Figures 3 and 4); characterized in that it comprises a wireless network management module for managing associations, with an access point of a centralized wireless network of devices or networks connected to the bridge device other than the wireless network (see col. 5, lines 55-59, col. 6, lines 35-58 and col. 7, lines 1-37); wherein the bridge is adapted to be a station of the wireless network (see Figures 3 and 4).

Regarding claim 3, Baker teaches all the limitations of claim 1. In addition, Baker teaches a device further comprising means for updating filtering tables for respective connected networks (see col. 4, line 52 through col. 5, line 32, col. 6, lines 35-44 and Figures 1, 2 and 8), said filtering tables comprising information for determining whether a message on a network is to be forwarded to another network or not, said updating

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using a process by default (see col. 4, line 52 through col. 5, line 32 and col. 6, lines 35-44), comprising means for enabling or disabling the default process (see col. 5, lines 19-26 and Figures 1, 2 and 8).

Regarding claim 4, Baker teaches all the limitations of claim 3. In addition, Baker teaches a device, wherein said default process is based on analysis of source address in messages detected on a respective network, comprising means for enabling or disabling message detection based updating (see col. 4, line 52 through col. 5, line 32 and col. 6, lines 35-44 and Figures 5-6 and 8).

Regarding claim 5, Baker teaches all the limitations of claim 3. In addition, Baker teaches a device further comprising means for updating a filtering table for a given network based on a device discovery process specific to said given network (see col. 4, line 52 through col. 5, line 32 and col. 6, lines 35-44 and Figures 2 and 8).

Regarding claim 6, Baker teaches all the limitations of claim 3. In addition, Baker teaches a device, wherein said default process is enabled for an Ethernet network (see col. 3, lines 57-61 and col. 5, lines 19-32).

Regarding claim 7, Baker teaches all the limitations of claim 3. In addition, Baker teaches a device, wherein said default process is disabled for a USB network (see col. 3, lines 57-61 and col. 5, lines 19-32 [i.e. Baker inherently discloses said default process is disabled for a USB network, since Baker teaches the enabling and disabling of a wired network which broadly reads on a USB network]).

Regarding claim 8, Baker teaches all the limitations of claim 1. In addition, Baker teaches a device, further comprising means for generating a message to said wireless

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network management module upon a filtering table amendment, said means for generating a message having an enabled state and a disabled state for each network (see col. 4, line 52 through col. 5, line 32 and col. 6, lines 35-44 and Figures 2 and 8).

Regarding claim 9, Baker teaches all the limitations of claim 8. In addition, Baker teaches a device, wherein said means for generating a message are enabled for an Ethernet network (see col. 3, lines 57-61 and col. 5, lines 19-32).

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claim 2 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over **Baker et al., U.S. Patent Number 5,570,366 (hereinafter Baker)** as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of **Meier, U.S. Patent Number 6,407,991 (hereinafter Meier)**.

Regarding claim 2, Baker teaches all the limitations of claim 1 above. Baker fails to explicitly teach means for determining a spanning tree for all networks attached to the device, comprising means for enabling or disabling the determination of the spanning tree.

Meier, however, teaches a bridging device, comprising means for determining a spanning tree for the wired and wireless networks attached to the bridging device (see col. 6, line 49 through col. 7, line 43 and Figures 6-8). According to Meier, a spanning

tree which provides the data pathways throughout the radio network is stored and maintained by each participant in the radio network and optimal spanning trees assure efficient, adaptive routing of information without looping (see col. 7, lines 44-50).

It would therefore have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate the teachings for determining a spanning tree for the networks attached by a bridging device of Meier to the bridge-based access point of Baker to include means for determining a spanning tree for all networks attached to the device, comprising means for enabling or disabling the determination of the spanning tree to assure an efficient, adaptive routing of information within the wired and wireless networks without looping.

### ***Conclusion***

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Cheung et al., U.S. Patent Number 5,812,531 discloses method and apparatus for bridging wireless LAN to wired LAN.


Higashiyama, U.S. Publication Number 2002/0196795 A1 discloses communication relay device with redundancy function for line in network in accordance with WAN environment and communication system using the same.

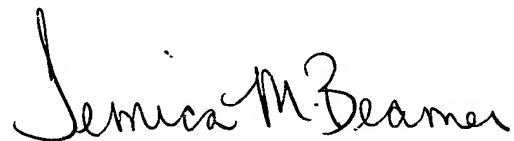
6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Anthony S. Addy whose telephone number is 571-272-7795. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Thur 8:00am-6:30pm.

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7. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Joseph H. Feild can be reached on 571-272-4090. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

  
Anthony S. Addy  
June 13, 2005

  
TEMICA BEAMER  
PRIMARY EXAMINER